

Date July 9, 2001 Express Mail Label No. EL856658149US

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Betty J. Fleming
Name (Print)

Betty J. Fleming
Signature

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

INOKO et al.

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Application No.: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: July 9, 2001

For: PLC SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT TOOL AND PLC SYSTEM PROGRAM
DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT TOOL INCLUDING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

July 9, 2001

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists

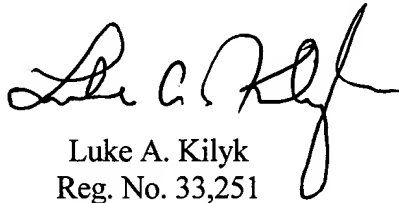
Information Disclosure Statement
New U.S. Patent Application

and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925 and please consider this a petition.

Respectfully submitted,



Luke A. Kilyk
Reg. No. 33,251

Atty. Docket No. 3140-006
KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C.
53A Lee Street
Warrenton, VA 20186
Tel: (540) 428-1701
Fax: (540) 428-1720
Enclosures: PTO-1449 (1 document)

1 of 1

3